**Amendments to the Claims**:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~in connection with~~ for processing polymer or elastomer material, comprising:

~~wherein~~ adding additive ~~is added~~ to the polymer or elastomer material; and

~~, and~~ subjecting the additive ~~is subjected~~ to ~~the~~ a desired chemical reaction;

~~, characterized in that~~wherein infrared radiation is introduced into the polymer or elastomer material, the radiation having a wavelength ~~of the radiation being so chosen~~ that ~~the radiation~~ optimally penetrates the polymer or elastomer material, but absorbs in the additive ~~producing~~ to produce the desired chemical reaction therein.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wavelength of the infrared radiation is chosen on the basis of the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the polymer or elastomer material and the additive, so that the wavelength corresponds optimally to the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the additive and as poorly as possible to the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the polymer or elastomer material.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additive is an organic peroxide.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additive is a chemical foaming agent.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wavelength of the infrared radiation is produced by means of the temperature of the infrared source.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, ~~characterized in~~

~~that~~wherein the infrared radiation is chosen by removing wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The ~~-~~method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material are removed from the infrared radiation by means of a filter.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additive is an organic peroxide.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additive is a chemical foaming agent.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wavelength of the infrared radiation is produced by means of the temperature of the infrared source.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the infrared radiation is chosen by removing wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a

crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim ~~1~~ 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.